

## Message Text

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46

ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 SS-20 INR-11 IGA-02 PRS-01 RSC-01

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DRAFTED BY ARA-LA/APU:FVORTIZ:PR

APPROVED BY ARA/LA/APU:FVORTIZ

ARA/LA:PSHANKLE

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R 011621Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 215835

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:SNAR, AR

SUBJECT:DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY PROGRAM IN ARGENTINA

REF: BUENOS AIRES 7103

FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM ORTIZ

1. ALLEGATIONS AGAINST DEA PROGRAM IN ARGENTINA MADE BY ERP LEADER SANTUCHO IN HIS RECENT CLANDESTINE PRESS CONFERENCE HAVE LED US TO REVIEW PROJECTED DEA ACTIVITIES IN ARGENTINA. AS YOU KNOW, USG ATTACHES A VERY HIGH PRIORITY TO PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO IMPEDE NARCOTICS TRAFFIC. HOWEVER THE PUBLIC LINKING BY SANTUCHO OF OUR DEA PROGRAM TO INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES COULD SIGNAL RENEWED INTEREST BY TERRORISTS IN EMBASSY OPERATIONS. THERE IS POSSIBILITY DEA ACTIVITIES COULD BE USED AS A PRETEXT FOR FURTHER UNFOUNDED ALLEGATIONS PARTICULARLY IN A HIGHLY-CHARGED POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE.

2. AS THERE IS NO CONNECTION WHATEVER BETWEEN DEA PROGRAM  
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WITH ARGENTINE POLICE AGENCIES AND GOA'S ANTI-TERRORIST

ACTIONS, WE ORDINARILY WOULD NOT HAVE REVIEWED PROPOSED  
DEA PROGRAM IN THIS LIGHT. HOWEVER, ERP ALLEGATIONS

WHICH WERE MADE TO INTERNATIONAL PRESS REPRESENTATIVES  
HAVE SERVED AS A REMINDER THAT DEA PROGRAM SHOULD BE  
EXAMINED TO ASSURE THERE ARE NO POSSIBLE GROUNDS WHICH  
WOULD OPEN US UP TO CHARGES THAT U.S. INVOLVED WITH  
ARGENTINE POLICE IN ANTI-TERRORIST ACTIONS.

3. SUGGEST YOU REVIEW DEA PROGRAM WITH ABOVE CONSIDERA-  
TIONS IN MIND. THE ITEMS TO BE FINANCED UNDER PRO-AG  
510-11-995-080 FOR EXAMPLE COULD BE VIEWED IN AN UN-  
FAVORABLE LIGHT BY SOME. SINCE PRO-AG IS AN UNCLASSIFIED  
DOCUMENT, HOSTILE ARGENTINE CONGRESSIONAL GROUPS COULD  
TRY TO USE THIS AGREEMENT AS A BASIS FOR ATTACKS ON USG.  
WHILE WE SHOULD NOT BE OVERSENSITIVE, I WANTED YOU  
TO CONSIDER DEA PROGRAM FROM THIS ANGLE AND LET ME HAVE  
YOUR BEST JUDGMENT AS TO WHETHER WE SHOULD CONTINUE WITH  
PROGRAM AS PLANNED. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DRUG CONTROL, PARAMILITARY FORCES, PROGRAM ASSISTANCE, ALLEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CollinP0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE215835  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** LA/APU:FVORTIZ:PR  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Reference:** BUENOS AIRES 7103  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CollinP0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
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**Review History:** RELEASED <05 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <03 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>  
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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY PROGRAM IN ARGENTINA  
**TAGS:** SNAR, PINS, AR, US  
**To:** BUENOS AIRES  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005